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By Jeanne Date 6/24/98

Case No. 808-2

H. A.
DAVIS
8-11-98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Inventors: **Albrecht et al**

Serial No: 08/946,138

Group Art Unit: 1834

Filed: 7 October 1997

Examiner: J. Tung

Title: MASSIVELY PARALLEL SIGNATURE SEQUENCING BY LIGATION OF ENCODED ADAPTORS

Amendment

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 25 February 1998, please enter the following amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1. (Amended)** A method of determining [the] a nucleotide sequence at an end of a polynucleotide, the method comprising the steps of:
ligating one or more encoded adaptors to [an end] the ends of identical copies of the polynucleotide, each encoded adaptor being a double stranded deoxyribonucleic acid comprising [having] an oligonucleotide tag selected from a minimally cross-hybridizing set of oligonucleotides between 8 and 20 nucleotides or basepairs in length and a protruding strand complementary to a portion of a strand of the polynucleotide, wherein each oligonucleotide of the minimally cross-hybridizing set differs from every other oligonucleotide of the set by at least two nucleotides; and

identifying one or more nucleotides in each of said portions of the strand of the

07/01/1998 TNGUYEN ~~Employed by~~ specifically hybridizing a tag complement to each oligonucleotide tag of the
01 FC:115 or more encoded adaptors ligated thereto.